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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,962	12/29/2000	Terry June Linsey	LOT9-2000-0029 US1	9960

27085 7590 07/16/2003

IBM CORPORATION
LOTUS SOFTWARE
ONE ROGERS STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,962

Applicant(s)

LINSEY ET AL.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The specification is objected since it does not cite the serial numbers and the filing dates of the related applications (listed on pages 1-4).
2. The abstract is objected since it exceeds 150 words.

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim claims "A computer program product" per se and does not positively recite that the program is stored on a medium that can be read by a machine. As such, the claimed invention is not directed to a machine readable medium or a manufacturer article.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grau et al ("Grau", USP 5910803) and Salas et al ("Salas", USP 6314408).

Regarding claims 1, 14, and 19-20, Grau teaches a method for browsing comprising the steps of presenting a user interface (col 1, lines 63-67); providing in a main window 600 in said interface a quick browse selector 615; responsive to user selection of said quick browse selector, creating a set of links (a list of map names) to control said main window without losing context (col 7, lines 52-53), displaying said context in a separate quick browse window in a simpler format (left pane 610 in Fig 6); and responsive to user selection of an item (name of a desired map) in said context, displaying in said main window an object (desired map) linked to said item (pane 620 in Fig. 6). Gau differs from the claim in that Gau does not explicitly teach that this method of browsing can be applied in collaboration space. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Salas. Salas teaches a collaborative work environment which comprises a browser for browsing and displaying links (Fig. 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Gau and Salas before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the mapping tool taught by Gau with the motivation being to use the mapping tool in collaboration environment.

Regarding claims 2, 15, Salas teaches the step of organizing said collaboration space according to an object model selectively including room (eRoom), folder (col 6, line 49), page (col 4, lines 63-64), member (col 3, line 2).

Regarding claim 3, Gau teaches that the simpler format being a hypertext markup language format (link).

Regarding claim 4, Salas teaches the implementing as a room (eRoom) in said collaboration space.

Regarding claim 5, Gau teaches the implementing said quick browse selector as a remote control selector in a search results window (search and display the desired map).

Regarding claim 6, Gau teaches, responsive to user selection of a link (map name) to a target page (a desired map) in said quick browse window 615, of reloading said main window with said target page (the desired map).

Regarding claim 7, Salas teaches the displaying changes (col 16, lines 29-33).

Regarding claims 8-9, Gau teaches enabling random access browsing of links (according to user's desire).

Regarding claim 10, Gau teaches a site map (line 66 of col 7 to line 3 of col 8).

Regarding claim 11, Gau teaches the step of generating said site map as a simple rendering of an access controlled table of context hierarchy (line 66 of col 7 to line 3 of col 8).

Regarding claim 12, Gau teaches the steps of displaying said quick browse window in minimal screen space 610 while said user browses target pages and allowing

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said user to see and access local settings of said target page so as to display context of said target page (col 12, lines 10-21).

Regarding claim 13, Gau teaches that said context includes location.

Regarding claim 16, Salas teaches the search (col 10, lines 58-60) and the changes (col 16, lines 29-33).

Regarding claim 17, Salas teaches the help (Fig. 12).

Regarding claim 18, Gau teaches the opening of quick browse window (615 in Fig. 6).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7238 (After Final Communication)

or

(703)-746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703)-746-7240 (For Status Inquiries, draft communication)

and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for

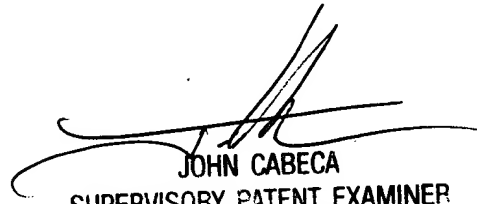
"INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

July 9, 03



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100